



Iowa Range

statewide

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.

winged loosestrife

Lythrum alatum

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta - flowering
plants

Features

Winged loosestrife is a perennial herb. Its smooth, upright, branched, four-sided stems may grow to four feet tall. The leaves may be arranged in an opposite or alternate pattern along the stem. They are lance-shaped, smooth, and up to two inches long. The pink to purple flowers (less than one-half inch long) are located at the base of the upper leaves. The fruits are capsules that may grow to one-half inch long.

Natural History

Winged loosestrife grows in wet meadows, wet prairies, fens, along streams, and around ponds. It flowers from June through September. It is common in lake areas and uncommon in the rest of the state.

Habitats

constructed lakes, ponds and reservoirs; natural lakes and prairie marshes; wet prairies and fens

Iowa Status

uncommon, native